

# Thank You

Anonymous

The COVID-19 pandemic has affected our communities around the world in ways that many of us have never seen. People around the world are struggling with this; even people who aren't impacted by the illness itself are experiencing its repercussions. It is such a far-reaching crisis that we can all see the impacts it is having on our world. Instead of focusing on the negative aspect of our situation, I want to share my thanks for all of the people who are working so hard through this crisis to keep things running as smoothly as possible. I want to remember more about this event than the number of people infected or when what country got its first cases. I want to remember those groups of people who kept us going and how grateful we are for them.

Throughout the pandemic, anyone who can stay home is doing so. However, there are still many people out working jobs that our communities cannot do without. Our healthcare workers are putting themselves at risk every day to take care of other people and prevent the spread of the disease. Our Grocery store workers are going in to work to make sure we can get the food we need. Our Law Enforcement officials are still working hard to keep us safe and to keep things running smoothly. These essential workers are putting themselves and their families at risk to perform the crucial tasks that keep our society going.

There are so many different essential workers and I have no way to thank them all. I am thankful for all the people who are still working through this crisis.

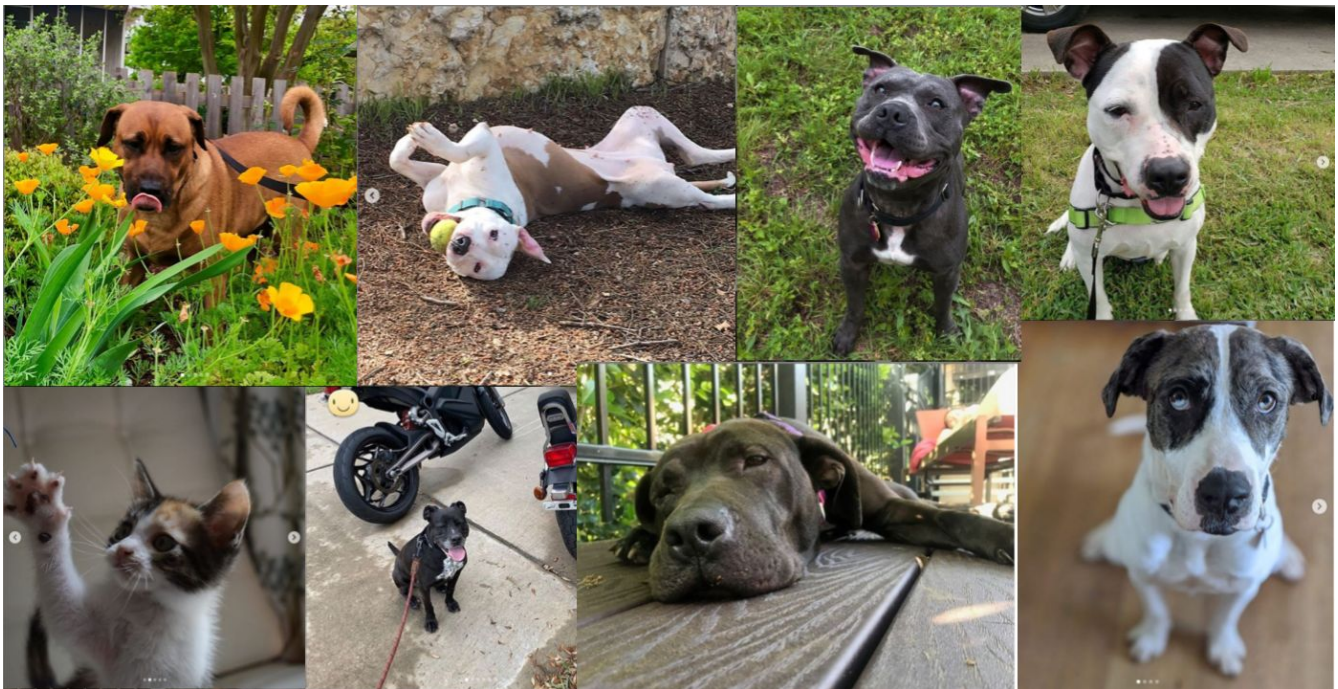
Unfortunately I can't thank them all as in depth as I would like. Instead I am going to

focus on my experience because I can't truly speak for anyone but myself. I want to thank everyone who works at the animal shelters in my city for working hard through this situation to take care of their animals. They are doing an incredibly important job and I am very grateful for all the work that they do.

I was already amazed by all the things that the shelters do for their animals. That being said, the extra work they have put in to keep things running during the shelter in place has been impressive. The shelters are already difficult to run in normal times, so many animals come in every week and there often isn't enough space. All of the staff work tirelessly to get animals out of the shelter and to make their stays as comfortable as possible. Despite all their work, animals can be there for far too long and are often returned to the shelter.

Because of COVID-19, the shelter had to close its doors to members of the public. This means that volunteers and people looking to adopt could no longer come to the shelter. With adoptions decreasing and fewer people able to help care for the animals, it became even more important to get animals out of the shelter and reduce the number of intakes. The staff worked to get animals out of the shelter and into temporary foster care and to find ways to continue adoption. They cleaned kennels, walked dogs, played with cats, and took care of sick animals. They took on all of their normal tasks and more to keep the animals safe, healthy, and happy. The whole team is so dedicated and passionate about what they do and it is incredible to see the things they accomplish every day.

While this is an undeniably tough situation and the circumstances are less than desirable it has been amazing to see what people are willing to do to help others. Those people who are working to protect the rest of us and those people who are doing what they can to support from home are truly making a difference. Everyone doing what they can to support the organizations, businesses, and people we love is what will get us through this. Just look at all these incredible animals who are getting a well-deserved break from shelter-life.



I realize that this is one organization that in the grand scheme of things isn't the most impactful, but their work is very important to our community. Every individual who is still working is doing such a big service to our community. No matter what they are doing, it is our essential workers who are keeping the rest of us going. Their work is crucial for every community and they all deserve our respect and gratitude.

